FOCUS Board Appointments

from the Office of Governor Bill Haslam



Barbara Fleming, MD

Dr. Barbara Fleming made substantive contributions as a physician with the Internal Medicine Clinic at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and senior health policy analyst working with the National Institutes of Health and Health Care Financing Administration. She earned a bachelor's degree from Tennessee Technological University, a master's degree in nutrition from Auburn University; a doctorate in the same field from Cornell University; a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Maryland; and completed a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health and National Institute on Aging.

Trudy Harper

Trudy Harper had an illustrious career with the Texas Utilities Electric Company and Tenaska, founding and serving as president of Tenaska Power Services Company, the power marketing affiliate of Tenaska. She currently serves on the Tennessee Technological University Foundation Board of Directors, the Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board, and as an adjunct professor in the electrical and computer engineering department. Ms. Harper earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Tennessee Tech and a master's in business administration and finance from Southern Methodist University.

Tom Jones

Tom Jones is co-owner and General Manager of Research Electronics International, one of the leading designers, developers, and manufacturers of counter surveillance equipment. He has served on the Tennessee Technological University Foundation Board of Directors, the university's Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board, and is a board member of the Mustard Seed Ranch. A Cookeville native, Mr. Jones earned a degree in electrical engineering at Tennessee Tech.



FOCUS Board Appointments Tennessee Technological University (continued)

Millard Oakley

Millard Oakley is the principal shareholder of the First National Bank of Tennessee and serves on its board of directors. An active and enthusiastic supporter of education in the Upper Cumberland, he served in the Tennessee General Assembly, on the Tennessee Board of Regents, and is a member of Tennessee Technological University Foundation Board of Directors. Mr. Oakley attended Tennessee Tech and graduated from Cumberland University School of Law.

Purna Saggurti

Purna Saggurti serves as global chair of investment banking for Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Among other contributions, he is on the board of the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, the Global Diversity & Inclusion Council, the Graduate Executive Board of The Wharton School, the Tennessee Technological University Foundation Board of Directors, and a member of the Board of the US-India Business Council. Mr. Saggurti holds a degree in chemical engineering from Andhra University, a Master of Science from Tennessee Tech, and a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School in Philadelphia.

Johnny Stites

Johnny Stites has served as managing partner of XI Investments for more than 25 years. Throughout his career, he has served on numerous boards and organizations in the Upper Cumberland region. He received a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian University and served on its Board of Trustees for 16 years. He has served on the Tennessee Board of Regents and on the Board of Trustees for the College of Business at Tennessee Technological University.

Teresa Vanhooser

Teresa Vanhooser began her career at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1980 culminating as deputy director of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. She is currently a senior consultant with Seabrook Solutions, LLC. Ms. Vanhooser earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Tennessee Technological University and a master's degree in administrative science from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.



FOCUS Board Appointments Tennessee Technological University (continued)

Barry Wilmore

Barry "Butch" Wilmore is a National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut and Captain in the United States Navy. He received bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Tennessee Technological University and a master's degree in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee. Mr. Wilmore was a letterman and team captain of the Tennessee Tech football team and was inducted into the university's Sports Hall of Fame in 2003.

